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NPIC/IEG (9/82)
21 SEPTEMBER 1982ITALIAN SELF-PROPELLED HOWITZER
TARABULUS ARMY BARRACKS EAST, LIBYA

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1. (SWN) SIGNIFICANCE: AN ITALIAN SELF-PROPELLED (SP) HOWITZER WAS IDENTIFIED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN LIBYA.
2. (SWN) REMARKS: ONE ITALIAN-PRODUCED 155MM PALMARIA SP HOWITZER WAS IDENTIFIED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN LIBYA AT TARABULUS ARMY BARRACKS EAST ON IMAGERY [REDACTED] THIS WEAPON, WHICH WAS PARKED IN THE TRAVEL-LOCK POSITION, MIGHT HAVE BEEN PRESENT [REDACTED] HOWEVER, IMAGE QUALITY PRECLUDED ITS IDENTIFICATION. THE PALMARIA WAS DEVELOPED FOR EXPORT BY THE ITALIAN COMPANY, OTO-MELARA. IT IS BUILT ON THE OF-40 MAIN BATTLE TANK CHASSIS AND IS DESIGNED FOR A CREW OF FIVE.

(SWN) THE INTRODUCTION OF THIS SP HOWITZER TO LIBYA'S INVENTORY PROVIDES ADDITIONAL EVIDENCE OF LIBYA'S DESIRE TO CONTINUE TO DIVERSIFY ITS ARMS PURCHASES. [REDACTED]
3. (S) [REDACTED] COORDINATES 32-53-37N 013-19-32E
4. (U) COLLATERAL REFERENCE: JANES ARMOR AND ARTILLERY 1981-82

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